

top of the list, Mr. Speaker. We should think of them first. We should honor them in the way that we do our jobs. We are a Nation at war. We know that. That is something I think most people in this body agree with. And we pass a budget that does not include them and does not include the funding to meet their needs.

Mr. Speaker, you and I would not be able to stand in this Chamber and have this debate if it were not for the men and women of the U.S. military. We should honor them. They should have been Title I, Page 1. And instead they are nowhere to be found in 3,565 pages. That is a serious oversight.

And, once again, we can talk about all the other things. We can talk about the illegal immigrants being able to get funding for attorneys. We can talk about roadblocks to having the borders secured, things that are purposely placed there; but the most egregious oversight is the fact that it does not fund our troops.

As I close, I will say God bless those troops. God bless their families. And, Mr. Speaker, my prayer is that this House will reverse itself and will put them first in this budget document.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of eye surgery.

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and December 18 on account of personal health.

Mr. PASTOR (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Ms. WOOLSEY (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and through December 21.

Mr. GILCHREST (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of an illness in the family.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of family matters.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today until 8 p.m. on account of travel delays.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KENNEDY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KENNEDY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FOXX) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, December 21.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, December 21.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, December 19, 20 and 21.

Ms. FOXX, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1396. An act to authorize a major medical facility project to modernize inpatient wards at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Atlanta, Georgia to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S. 1839. An act to require periodic reports on claims related to acts of terrorism against Americans perpetrated or supported by the Government of Libya to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

S. 1858. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1916. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to modify the program for the sanctuary system for surplus chimpanzees by terminating the authority for the removal of chimpanzees from the system for research purposes to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 2339. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in Alpena, Michigan, as the "Lieutenant Colonel Clement C. Van Wagoner Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic" to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

S. 2400. An act to amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to continue to pay to a member of the Armed Forces who is retired or separated from the Armed Forces due to a combat-related injury certain bonuses that the member was entitled to before the retirement or separation and would continue to be entitled to if the member was not retired or separated, and for other purposes to the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 2488. An act to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Ms. Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 69. Joint Resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reports that on December 5, 2007

she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 1429. To reauthorize the Head Start Act, to improve program quality, to expand access, and for other purposes.

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, also reports that on December 13, 2007 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 365. To provide for a research program for remediation of closed methamphetamine production laboratories, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4252. To provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through May 23, 2008, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4343. Fair Treatment for Experienced Pilots Act.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), under its previous order and pursuant to House Resolution 880, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, December 18, 2007, at 9 a.m., for morning-hour debate, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable JULIA CARSON.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4678. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals) [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-1057; FRL-8339-2] received December 13, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4679. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 07-03, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

4680. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Patent Rights-Ownership by the Contractor [DFARS Case 2001-D015] (RIN: 0750-AD72) received December 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4681. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Implementation Plans of Michigan: Clean Air Interstate Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0519; FRL-8508-1] received December 13, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4682. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Nebraska; Interstate Transport of Pollution [EPA-R07-OAR-